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May 19, 2003

Representative Gerald D. Kleczka
United States House of Representatives
House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

RE: HR 1693 concerning deductibility of work related expenses for persons with disabilities.

Dear Representative Kleczka,

The Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development and the Wisconsin Division of Vocational Rehabilitation are most pleased to express our support for HR 1693 the Disabled Workers Empowerment Act. Changing the current IRS 20 regulations to advance the employment potential of people with disabilities will positively impact upon thousands of individuals we assist each year.

HR 1693 to allow people with disabilities to deduct certain work-related and personal care expenses not currently deductible is an important step forward in eliminating a financial barrier to full employment. We believe that it is more than reasonable that people with disabilities should be able to make these employment-related deductions on their earned income. The legislation will support many Americans with the most significant disabilities in maximizing their employment potential.

We applaud you for your leadership and commitment to advancing employment for people with disabilities, and we look forward to working with you in support of the HR 1693.

Sincerely,

Roberta Gassman
DWD Secretary

Charlene Dwyer
DVR Administrator